

1. (Twice Amended) A device for remote-site collection and drying of a liquid biological sample obtained from an individual for the purpose of mailing the dried sample for recovery and laboratory analysis of an analyte contained in the biological sample, said device comprising:

a [relatively rigid] strip having a handle end and a collection end, said collection end having attached thereon a collection pad for collecting and drying the sample containing the analyte,

wherein the device includes a means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad from the [relatively rigid] strip to recover the analyte for detection or measurement by laboratory analysis.

2. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the collection pad has applied thereon the biological sample and the biological sample [is] comprises urine.

3. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the collection pad has applied thereon the biological sample and the [analyte is] biological sample comprises albumin derived from urine.

4. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the collection pad [is] comprises an absorbent material.

5. (Twice Amended) The device of claim 4 wherein the [collection pad] absorbent material [is selected from] comprises glass fiber [, glass fiber/cellulose mixtures, or cellulose].

6. (Amended) The device of claim 4 wherein the [collection pad material is] absorbent material comprises polyvinyl alcohol.

7. (Twice Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the [the] means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad comprises an aperture formed through the collection end of the strip.

19. (Twice Amended) A kit for remote-site collecting of a biological sample from a patient for laboratory analysis of said sample, said kit comprising:

    a sample collection device comprising a [relatively rigid] strip having a handle end and a collection end, said collection end having a collection pad for collecting and drying the sample containing the analyte, wherein the device includes a means for facilitating removal of at least a portion of the collection pad from the [relatively rigid] strip to recover the analyte for detection or measurement by laboratory analysis; and

    an information card for providing information about the patient.

20. (Amended) The kit of claim 19 wherein said kit further comprises [a component selected from] a urine collection cup for collecting a urine sample [, and packaging means for transporting the collected sample].